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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT Moscow Instructions To SED

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

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25X1A	2

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1. The Central Committee of the SED has received instructions from Moscow supporting Semenov's conciliatory policy towards the oppositionists in the party. Semenov, still advised by Pavel Yudin, the Cominform organizer, was not too much pleased with the appointment of Dr. Lothar Bolz as Foreign Minister. Bolz is an outright Ulbricht man, while Semenov would have preferred a nationalist bourgeois who could have helped his efforts to build a non-Communist nucleus around Field Marshal Paulus as a bridge to Germany (Federal Republic). Ulbricht, however, insisted that in the dangerous Soviet Zone situation a man fully reliable be entrusted with this office, to prevent leaks to the West (a la Dertinger).
2. Word was sent, however, to the party oppositionists, that they should not take Ulbricht's success too much to heart, because the new reconciliatory intra-party course of Malenkov would bear fruit in the Soviet Zone at a later time. If all will collaborate sincerely and efficiently to keep the rank and file in line, Wilhelm Zaisser and Rudolf Herrnstadt might return by the end of the year to first-class positions. Ulbricht's present power would be limited by the establishment of a new directing collegium.
3. The SED cadres are rightly or wrongly convinced that no new trials will take place in Germany against dissident oppositionists, and that the increasing tension with the German Federal Republic will force Ulbricht to adopt milder measures against dissident party members because of the necessity to create a united front against the enemy.

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